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Corpus of Latin inscriptions have come out, and, although the author has taken some of the new material into consideration, much of it seems to have been neglected, notably special studies of certain provinces and the important articles in the dictionaries of Pauly-Wissowa and Daremberg-Saglio. Our knowledge of taxation, of local government, of frontier politics, and of economic conditions in the provinces has been much extended during the last three decades, and the treatment of these subjects might have been revised to advantage; but Arnold's book presents only a general outline of the subject, and fortunately the correctness of his sketch is not seriously affected by recent discoveries.

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Latin Lessons for Beginners. By J. C. ROBERTSON and ADAM CARRUTHERS, University of Toronto. Toronto, Canada: W. J. Gage & Co., 1906. Pp. 398.

This work, being a revision of the *Primary Latin Book*, published in 1892, has very much to commend it as a useful book during the first stages of the study of Latin. It is perhaps too long to be mastered within a year, but in this respect it meets with approval on the part of the reviewer, who thinks that one of the chief causes for the poor training given to most pupils taking Latin in the high school is the fact that the first-year work is almost invariably a mere rush, and too soon the student is hurried into the serious reading of Caesar. A year and a half at least ought to be spent on introductory work, giving one a general knowledge of forms, syntax, etc., and also practice in the translation of easy stories.

Throughout the work the authors seem to have kept in mind the needs of the learner. The order of the lessons is in keeping with the idea of most of the latest writers. Space does not permit the discussion of a plan which to some appears to lack continuity. In the matter of the vocabulary not more than ten new words are given with each exercise. Word-lists are found at intervals of about five lessons. Fortunately it is not necessary for teachers to use these unless they so desire. The explanations of verb and case forms and syntactical points are sane and practical. Especially clear and satisfactory are the remarks on the use of the dative after certain verbs, the gerund and gerundive, the indirect question and the ablative absolute construction. There is no better way in which to gain a knowledge of forms and syntax than by the translation of sentences, and in particular from English into Latin. In connection with every exercise there is an opportunity for abundant practice in this direction.

It is hardly to be expected that the first edition of a book should be entirely free from errors. The following omissions in the marking of long quantities were noticed: p. 26, *copiās* (for *cōpiās*); p. 98, *pugnāverant* (*pūgnāverant*); p. 100, *Rōmanum* (*Rōmānum*); p. 103, *parēmus* (where the meaning indicates the use of *pārēmus*) and *parēbat* (*pārēbat*); p. 173, *consuēvērunt* (*cōnsuēvērunt*); p. 190, *strinxī* (*strīnxī*); p. 214, *intellexi* and *intellectum* (*intellēxi*, *intellēctum*); p. 215, *intellexerat* (*intellēxerat*); p. 224, *coniunctūrus* (*coniūnctūrus*); p. 312,

nolite (nōlūtē), conāre (cōnāre), conāminī (cōnāminī); p. 389, primō (prīmō). In the vocabulary for the lesson based on nouns of the fourth declension lacus is found, and yet nothing is given to tell us that it has the dative and ablative plural in ubus. On p. 167 we read nōs sunt amīcī. This error, of course, cannot be attributed to the authors. On pp. 226 and 227 ascēsum and ascēnsū are given, but the nominative is not to be seen in any of the vocabularies. Pas on p. 302 no doubt should be pars. The statement is made that "rogō is used like both petō and quaerō." This is misleading.

During the last few years, owing to the changing pedagogical ideas, a large number of beginners' books in Latin have appeared. The purpose and plan of Robertson and Carruthers' work seem to be sound, and it is safe to say that it meets all the requirements for thoroughness and interest.

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Beginning Latin. By J. EDMUND BARSS. New York: University Publishing Co., 1906. Pp. x+322. \$1.00.

Mr. Barss's *Beginning Latin* arrests attention from the start; the plan of the exercises, a convenient test of general method in such books, strikes one as both new and ingenious. The method affects particularly the treatment of inflections. To quote from the Preface: "The uses of the various elements (of inflection) are explained, and very many simple exercises in the building of paradigms introduced. This method is found to give a conscious mastery of inflection in much less time than under the old system of memorizing paradigms." That is, instruction in inflections emphasizes the component parts of words, and insists on the advantage to the pupil, theoretical and demonstrated, of analyzing and building the forms he uses. Paradigms are as a rule not given, except of irregular words; instead their use is explained in Lesson XI, and thenceforward paradigm building is a constant exercise. The idea will be inherently attractive to many, and if wider experience upholds Mr. Barss's contention that time is saved, the partisans of memory work must meet this strong external argument.

Independent judgment and a practical sincerity are shown in the direct, unconventional expository style of this book and in the exclusion of some syntactical matters usually included in Latin primers. The clearness and simplicity of expression will save time in the recitation period; in many cases teachers will meet readier comprehension on the part of the class and find that the need of explanation is lessened, with the incidental disciplinary gain that a pupil is on better terms with a textbook that does not demand constant intervention of the teacher as interpreter.

As to the important matter of vocabulary, about five hundred words have been selected to be learned outright; these are introduced gradually and emphasized in every possible way; for example, only these words, as far as I observed, are used in English-Latin exercises; and their special distinction is made appa-